

THE DIRECTOR OF
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

National Intelligence Council

28 June 1984

NOTE FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intel-
ligence
Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM: Herbert E. Meyer, Vice Chairman
National Intelligence Council

Here is a summary of points made at
our luncheon with

HEM

Herbert E. Meyer

Attachment: a/s

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- 1 - D/OPA

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27 June 1984

MEMORANDUM TO: Herbert Meyer, Vice Chairman
National Intelligence Council

FROM: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT: Meeting with [REDACTED]

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On 25 June 1984, Herbert Meyer, Vice Chairman of the NIC, George
Lauder, Director of Public Affairs, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] met over lunch with [REDACTED] at the
Foundry Restaurant in Georgetown to discuss the Papal assassination
attempt.

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Most of the conversation centered around [REDACTED] discussion
of the Italian Prosecutor General's report. It was apparent from her
answers to our questions that [REDACTED] knowledge of the Italian
evidence does not extend much beyond what she has already published;

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] A few interesting items
surfaced during our discussion, but little in the way of new information
was revealed.

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The following represent the key points mentioned by [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] All of her statements
concerning these points appeared to be based on speculation rather than
hard facts.

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B. [REDACTED] seems convinced that a plot against Solidarity
leader Lech Walesa existed, stating that the text of the interrogation
she had seen regarding the transportation of weapons to be used in the
planned attack was quite persuasive. She thought it significant that
Agca was in command of more of the details of Walesa's planned itinerary
than were the Italian police, who later corroborated Agca's statements.

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C. [REDACTED] has agreed to supply a Catholic publisher close to
the Vatican with the Prosecutor's report. This publishing house had
expressed interest in publishing her recent book in Italian, but she
declined. In [REDACTED] mind, the fact that this publisher--whose
product is implicitly endorsed by the Vatican--was interested in
publishing material on the Bulgarian connection suggests that the Pope
believes that the Bulgarians were behind the attempt on his life.

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D. [REDACTED] admits it is difficult to believe that the Bulgarians

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would plan to kill the Pope so far in advance, claiming she simply does not know whether the Bulgarian Ayvazov actually told Agca about the plot in advance.

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G. [] told us that Omer Mersan is suing her for slander in the West German Supreme Court. [] feels that the Munich Tribunal and the Bavarian State Prosecutor appear to be trying to protect Mersan. According to her, Martella had acquired evidence implicating Mersan high up in the Turkish Mafia, and had confirmed his presence in Sofia in connection with a contraband shipment. []

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She says that the Germans would only allow him to be extradited to Italy on a lower charge than one of direct complicity. He is currently free in West Germany.

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H. [] dismisses the notion that Agca had been "coached" in prison, claiming such coaching would have required a "team." She can think of no logical reason why the Italians would coach the assailant, noting that in last year's national election in the US and in Western Europe, no mention whatsoever was given to the "Bulgarian connection," which [] found shocking.

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I. With respect to the murder of Abdi Ipekci in Turkey, [] opines that this was commissioned by Bulgaria as a destabilizing effort, since Ugur Mumcu had previously divulged the connection between the Turkish Mafia and Bulgaria.

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J. [] herself has questions about certain aspects of the Bulgarian connection, particularly why the three accused stayed in Rome for so long. She points out that Vassilev left 10 days after the [] article appeared in the Reader's Digest. Ayvazov departed Italy on 11 November 1982, one day after Martella inquired of the Foreign Ministry whether the Bulgarians had diplomatic immunity. She attributes their belated departure to self confidence. [] expressed vehement opposition to the notion that the three Bulgarian defendants were freelancing in Italy without the knowledge of Sofia.

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K. In response to a question as to whether the Bulgarians could have been involved with their alleged coconspirators for reasons other than to kill the Pope, [] starts from the premise that only non-Bulgarians engage in smuggling activity outside of Bulgaria. She states they would not use people identified with the DS outside of the country.

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